Refugee influx Emergency Vulnerability Assessment (REVA 4) – Preliminary Results

February 2021 - Cox's Bazar

Data collection supported by:















Presentation Outline

- 1. Objective and coverage
- 2. Demographics
- 3. Overall Vulnerability
 - 3.1 Expenditures/economic vulnerability
 - 3.2 Food consumption
 - 3.3 Coping mechanisms and credit dependency
 - 3.4 Credit Dependency
- 4. Local Economy and Livelihoods
- 5. Assistance
- 6. Multi-dimensional deprivation
 - 6.1 Health and WASH
 - 6.2 Education
- 7. Protection and Gender
- 8. Satisfaction levels and Priority Needs
- 9. Conclusions

OBJECTIVES & COVERAGE

Objectives

- To assess severity of food insecurity and other essential needs of Rohingya and host community adjacent to the camps, including:
 - ✓ Trend analysis since the influx;
 - ✓ Impact of different interventions;

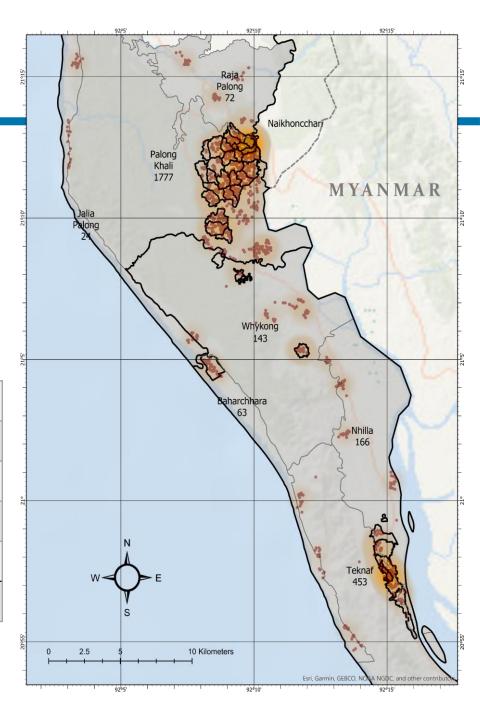
Profile the most vulnerable groups and examine trends since the influx;

Provide recommendations to address priority needs and guide targeting.

Sampling strategy

- ❖ Panel sampling from REVA-3 i.e. households covered in REVA-3 were revisited.
- REVA-3 sampling calculations: Two-stage cluster (95%, ±5) + design effect 1.5

Stratum	Targeted sample (REVA-3 achieved sample)	Achieved		
		Sample	Ratio	Attrition
Unregistered Rohingya	1,535	1,393	0.58	8%
Registered Rohingya	672	569	0.23	15%
Host communities	495	453	0.19	8%
Total	2,702	2,415	1	11%





DEMOGRAPHICS



Household Demographics

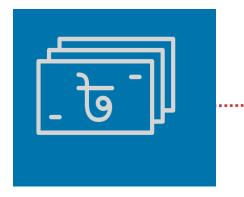
Gender of household head	Female	21%	14%
	Male	79%	86%
	1-3 members	23%	9%
Household size category	4-7 members	65%	78%
	8+ members	13%	13%
Presence of person(s) with difficulties**		15%	18%
Presence of chronically ill member(s)		12%	19%
Single mother headed household		11%	11%
Households with children under-5 years of age		55%	44%
Households with adolescents		57%	74%
Households with elderly person (60+ years)		16%	20%
Households with a female breadwinner		8%	9%
Households with no breadwinners		21%	4%
High dependency ratio (>1.5)		20%	11%

^{**}At population level, 3% of Rohingya and 4% of hosts report facing difficulties. Note that the REVA asks about difficulties in performing day-to-day activities and not disabilities.



OVERALL VULNERABILITY

Components of Vulnerability







Economic vulnerability

- Below food MEB (extremely poor)
- Between food MEB & MEB (poor)
- Above MEB (non-poor)

Food consumption

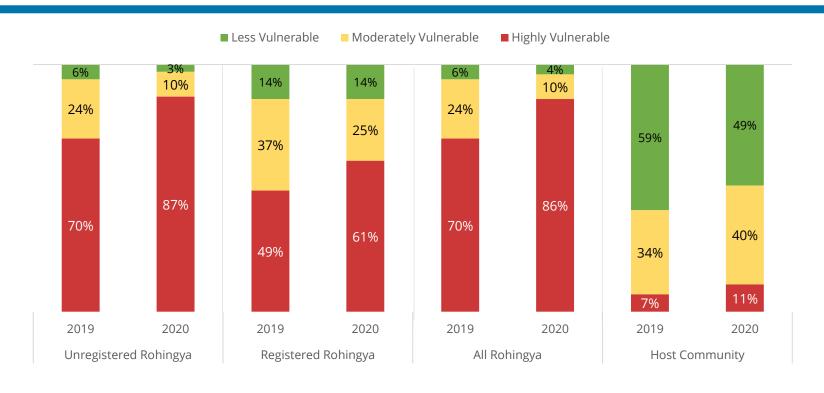
- Poor
- Borderline
- Acceptable

High risks coping

- Children (age<15) are working
- Children (age 15-17) are working long hours or in hazardous conditions
- Accepting high-risk/illegal jobs
- Begging



Overall Vulnerability Levels

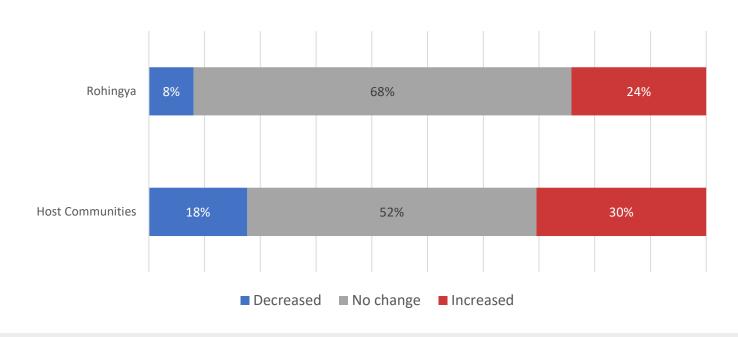


Overall vulnerability has increased from 2019 to 2020 across all populations, both Rohingya and host community.

While the increase of vulnerability is evident, the extent of this increase may be skewed between the 2019-2020 comparison. The MEB used for the 2020 calculations was the computed MEB from 2018, which was much higher than the 2017 adjusted MEB used for 2019 computations (which was determined by the National Cash Working Group at onset of the influx).



Movements in/out of Vulnerability: 2019 vs. 2020



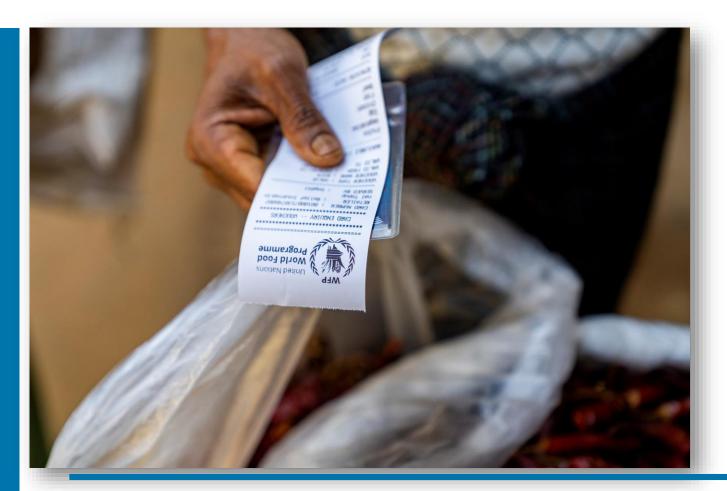
- ~70% of the Rohingya population has not seen any change in their vulnerability status from 2019
- 24% of households moved into higher vulnerability category
- In host community, 30% of population moved into higher vulnerability bracket
- These shifts in levels of vulnerability strongly correlate with household income changes since 2019.



Who are vulnerable?

	Rohingya	Host Community
Demographics		
Female-headed households		X
Households with member(s) with difficulties	X	
Households with children under 5	X	
Households with number of children 1 to 5	X	
Households with more than 5 children		X
Household with adolescent girls	X	
Households with Children 5 – 14 years	X	
Households with 5+ members	X	
High dependency ratio	X	X
High crowding index		X
Presence of chronic ill member	X	
Economic		
Absence of an active working member	X	X
No male member of working age	X	
Female breadwinner		X

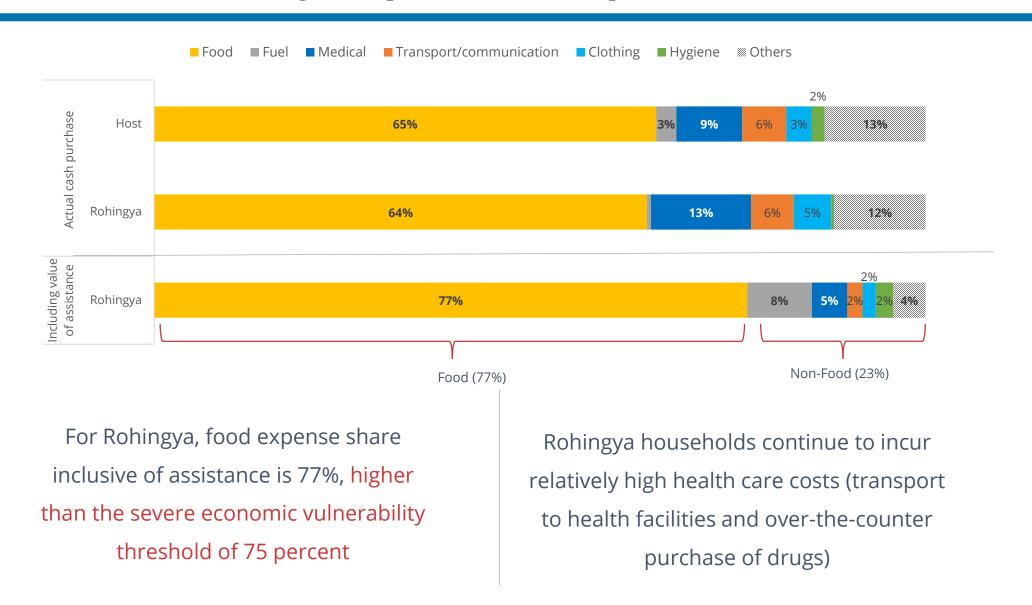
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EXPENDITURE PATTERNS & ECONOMIC VULNERABILITY

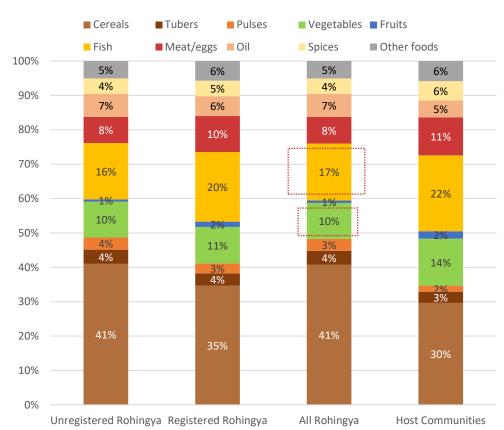


Overall monthly expenditure patterns



Expenditure shares by food groups

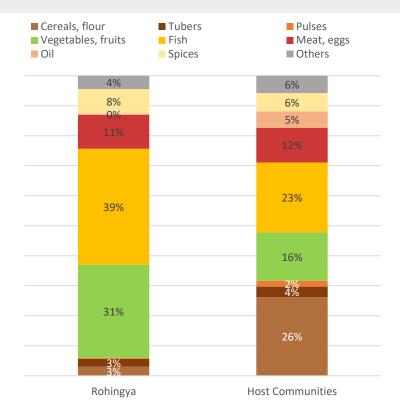




Rice expenditure has not only remained dominant, but also shows increased food wallet share from 2019:

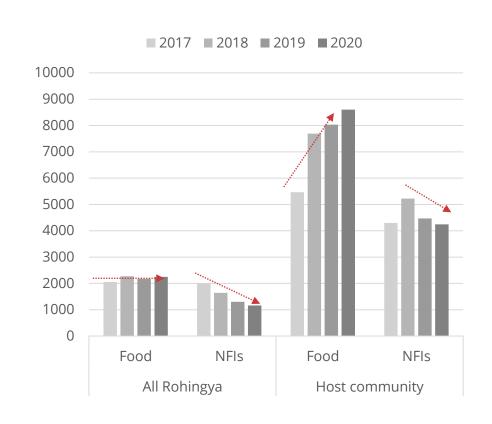
- 35% > 41% for Rohingya
- 25% > 30% for hosts

Expenditure based on what people buy with cash from the local markets



Clearly, Rohingya spend more on buying fish and vegetables from the local market (is it a question of less ration amounts or more preference on varieties in the local market?)

Expenditure trends: 2017-2020



Rohingya

Stability of food exp. driven by WFP's constant adjustments on the food transfer value based on inflationary pressure to protect Rohingya from price fluctuations/purchasing power erosion.

Steady decrease in NFI over the years: tendency to deprioritize non-food needs to meet other food needs in the face of cash constraints

Hosts

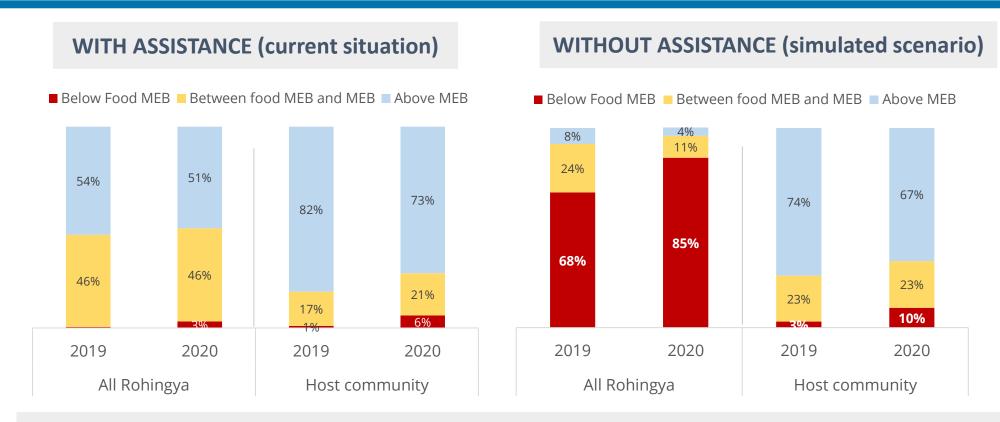
Rising food expenditure in hosts due to food price hikes over the period and lack of protection policies from market fluctuations.

Increase in food expenditure exerts direct pressure on share of NFI expenditure.

Price increases not unique to Cox's Bazar but consistent with national price trends (esp. 2020 due to pandemic).



Economic Vulnerability



Even with assistance, 49% of Rohingya still have consumption below the MEB

If assistance is removed from the equation, almost 96% will have consumption below MEB

Without current assistance, all the Rohingya would be rendered completely unable to support their basic consumption needs, <u>underscoring the continued importance of assistance.</u>

3.2



FOOD CONSUMPTION



Food consumption outcomes: Current situation

ROHINGYA



1 out of 2 Rohingya households have acceptable food consumption outcomes

HOST COMMUNITIES

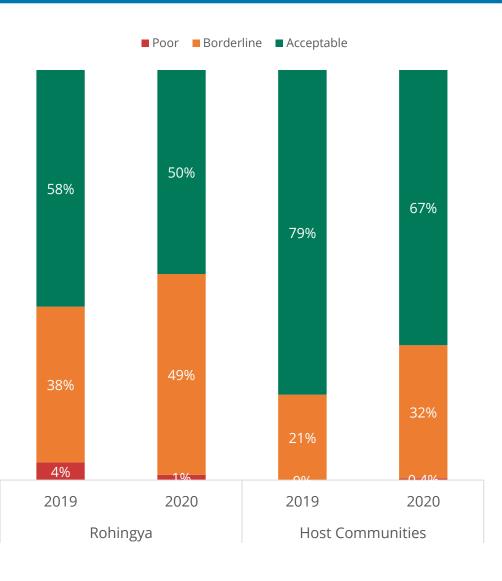


2 out of 3 host households have acceptable food consumption outcomes



Food consumption: Trends

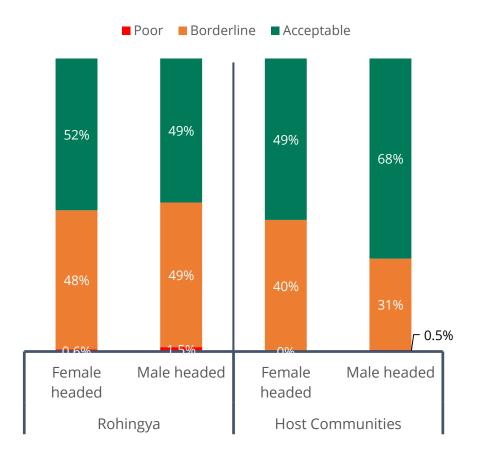
- ❖ Food insecurity relatively increased among both hosts and Rohingya compared to 2019.
- Switch in assistance modality from value to commodity voucher resulted in perception biases among Rohingya:
 - ✓ Low preference on some items (YSP and loitta dry fish) in the ration basket affected their consumption
 - ✓ Inability to smoothen consumption till the next distribution cycle
- For host community, sustained impacts of COVID-19 livelihoods contraction and absence of universal food aid coverage affected consumption





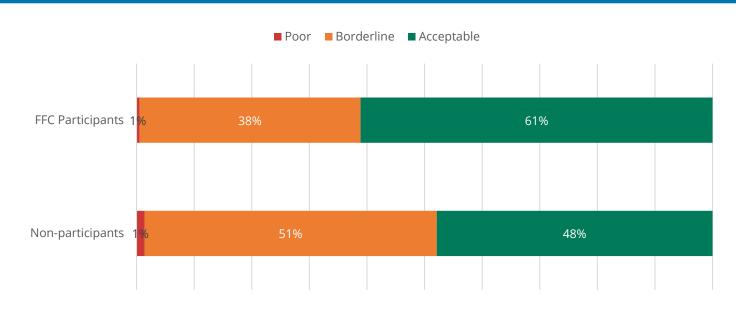
Food consumption: By household head gender

- Comparable outcomes for male and femaleheaded households in camps ~ due to equal coverage by assistance
- But female-headed households in hosts report more deprivation than their male counterparts.





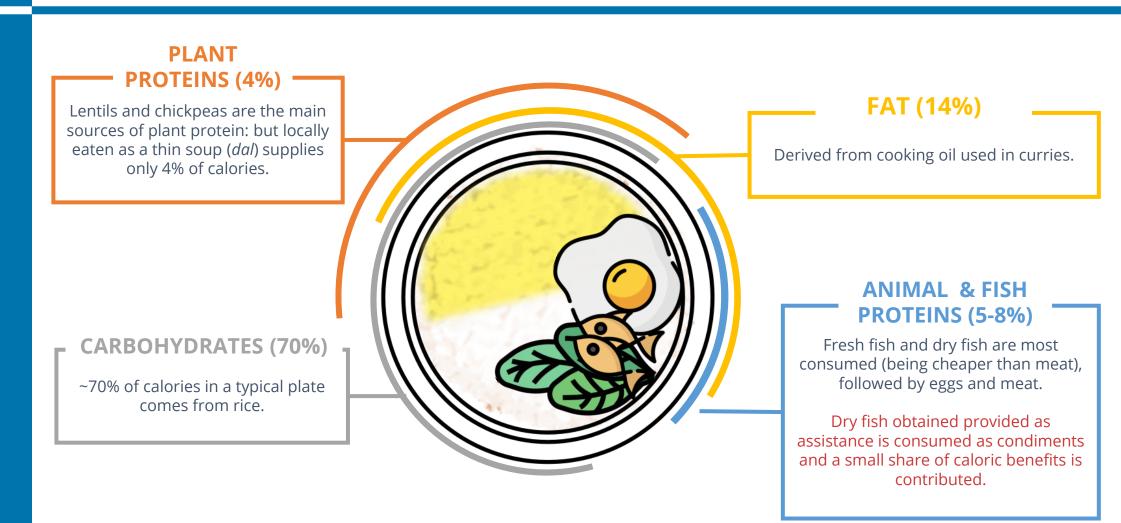
Food consumption: Fresh Food Corner Beneficiaries



- Fresh food corner beneficiaries have comparatively better food consumption outcomes
 - ✓ Increased chances of ration lasting whole month
 - ✓ Reduced selling of non-food assistance
 - ✓ Increased ability to spend on non-food needs
- Beneficiaries significantly record more consumption of meat/fish/eggs, vegetables and fruits
- Similarly, participants are more likely to eat vitamin A and protein rich food higher number of times compared to the non-participants



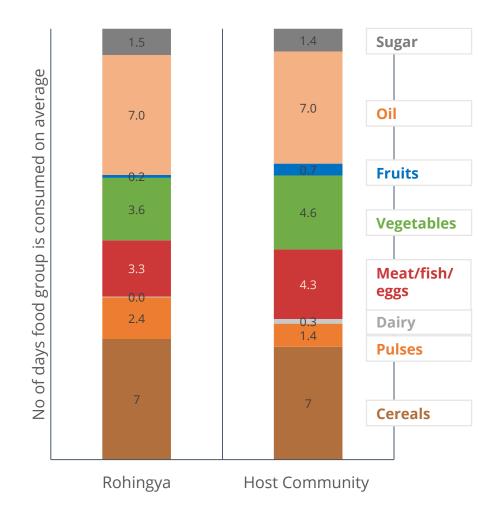
Food consumption: Food plate and caloric distribution





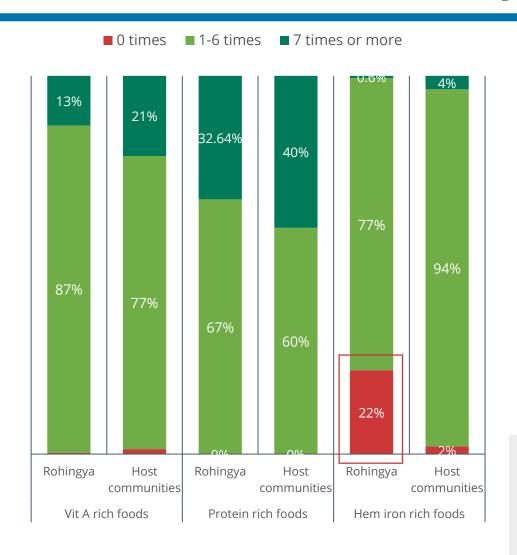
Dietary diversity: days food groups consumed in a week

- Dietary diversity has <u>significant negative</u> <u>correlations</u> with **selling of assistance**, **adoption of negative coping** and **larger household sizes**.
- Overall, host communities demonstrate marginally higher dietary diversity than Rohingya ~ esp. on nutrient rich foods.
- Hosts demonstrate more frequent consumption of vegetables, meat/fish and fruits. Even better pattern was observed among registered Rohingya





Micro-nutrient consumption



- 1 out 5 Rohingya households reported not having any iron-rich foods in 7 days prior to the survey.
- Lack of consumption of hem. iron rich foods
 indicates lack of access to meat, poultry, seafood
 etc. among Rohingya.
- The deprivations in iron-rich foods are driven by unregistered Rohingya. Only 8% of registered Rohingya report not consuming iron-rich foods.

Access to any type of income enhances odds for consumption of micronutrients, particularly for protein and iron.

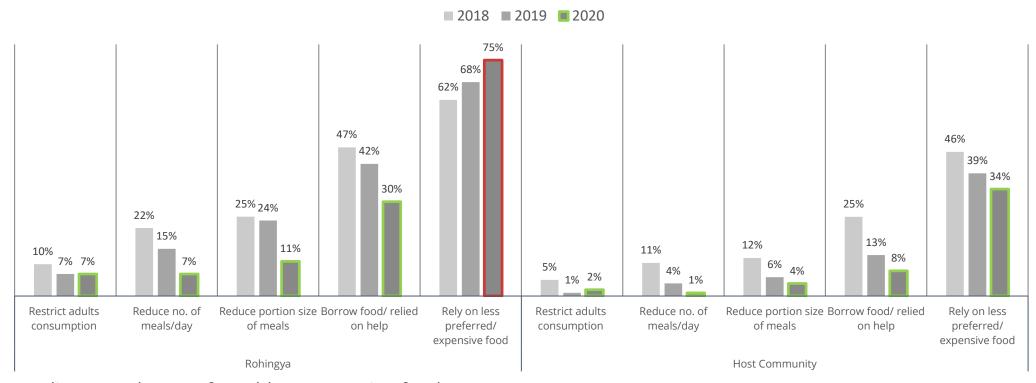
3.3



COPING MECHANISMS



Consumption-based Coping



- Reliance on less preferred/less expensive foods most prevalent food-based coping reported
 - ✓ potentially driven by shift to commodity voucher from value voucher
- Borrowing food as coping less than past years- could be a sign of reduced creditworthiness or everyone just didn't have extra to share

Dependence on consumption-based coping among hosts has steadily decreased over the years.



Livelihood Coping Strategies: Snapshot





	Rohingya	Host Communities
Emergency	4%	1%
Crisis	58%	32%
Stress	24%	30%
No coping	14%	37%

Most of the Rohingya depend on crisis coping strategies followed by stress copings

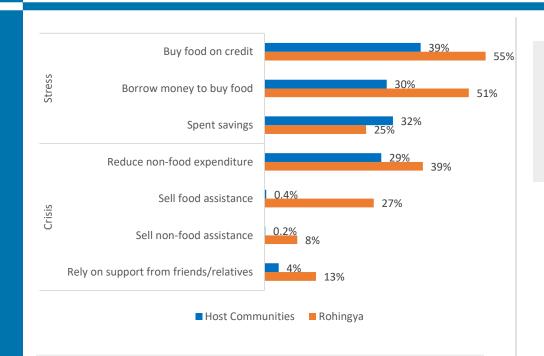
^{*} Stress strategies: are reversible coping, preserving productive assets, reduced food intake or increase in debts that reduces a household's ability to deal with future shocks

^{*}Crisis strategies: are irreversible coping often associated with a direct reduction of future productivity;

^{*} Emergency strategies: are distress coping, are more difficult to reverse or more dramatic in nature than crisis strategies



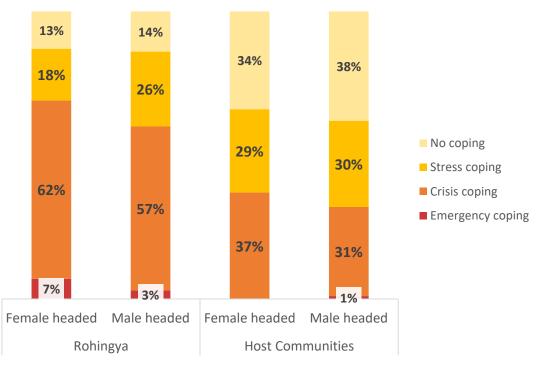
Livelihood Coping Strategies: Snapshot



Who are adopting?

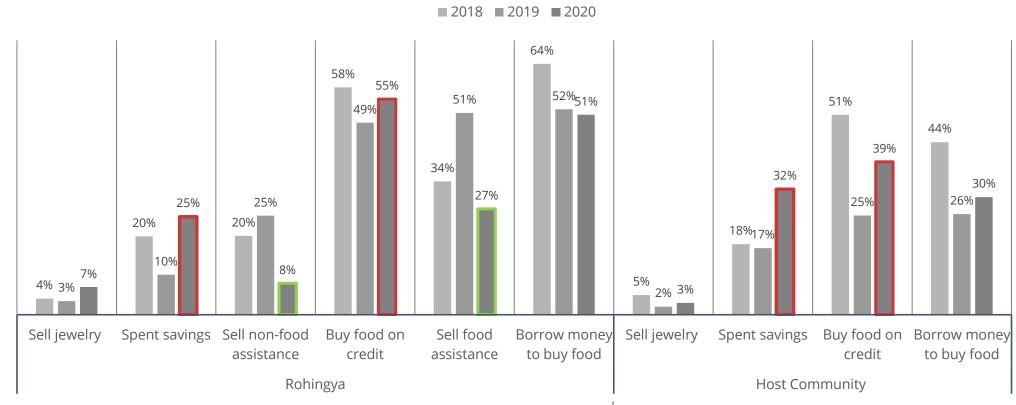
- Household no active working member (both community)
- HHs reporting that rations not lasting the whole month
- HHs with child under 5 years of age
- High crowding index (HC)
- Separated HHH (HC)

Female headed households in both hosts and Rohingya are more prone to adopting severe coping compared to male-headed households.





Livelihood Coping Strategies: 3-year trend



Rohingya:

- Sale of both food and non-food assistance reduced possibly due to shift to commodity vouchers & other programmatic interventions to sensitize reducing selling to increase diet diversity
- Credit dependency and borrowing for food remain prevalent followed by accessing healthcare

Hosts:

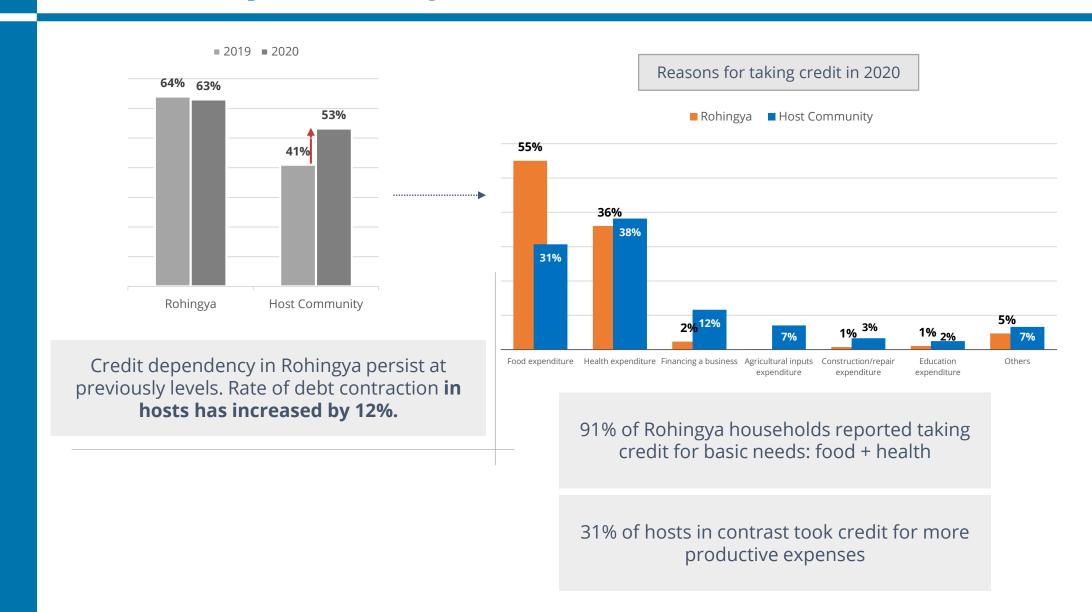
Demonstrated increase in spending savings and buying food on credit; possibly due to lockdown-induced income contractions 3.4



CREDIT DEPENDENCY



Credit Dependency: Trends and reasons

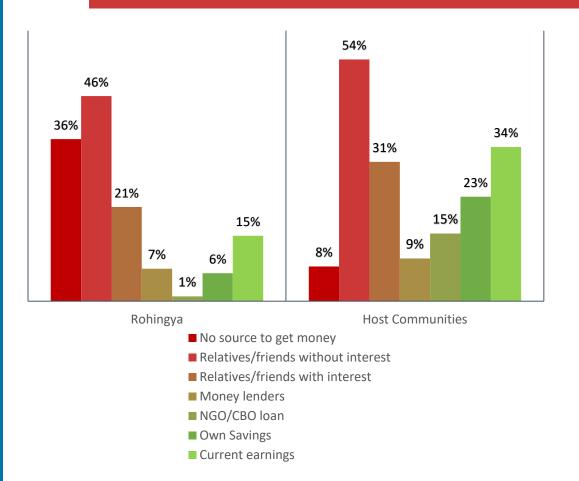




Coping with an Unforeseen Emergency Expense

Assuming Rohingya emergency expense of 10,000 BDT

Assuming host community emergency expense of **25,000 BDT**



36% of Rohingya households reported not having any means of coping

Host community households demonstrate **higher self-sufficiency**

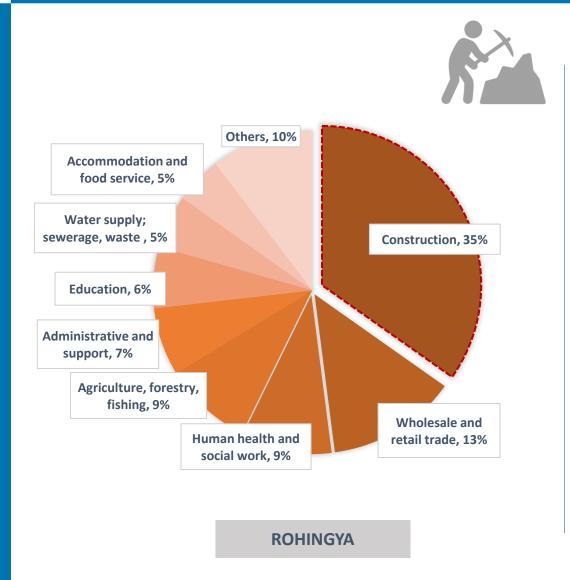
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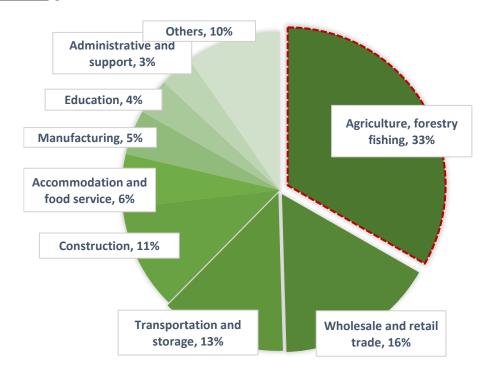
LOCAL ECONOMY AND LIVELIHOODS



Profiling the local economy: Sectors of employment



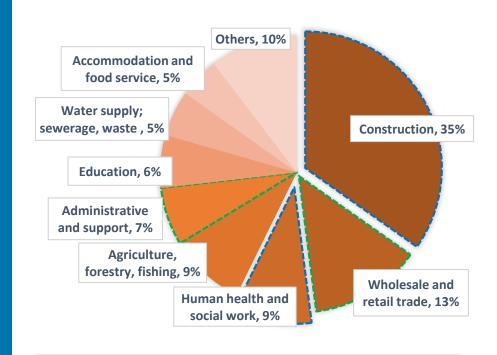




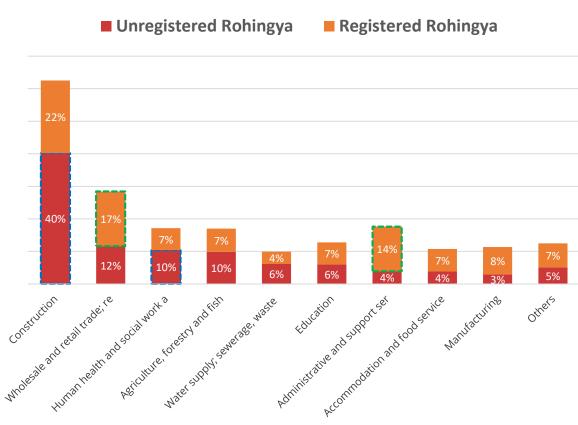
HOST COMMUNITIES



Profiling the local economy: Within the camp economy



- Registered Rohingya: more diversified and skilled sector profile
- Unregistered Rohingya: disproportionately reliant on unskilled labor in construction and more reliant on the humanitarian response for employment





Labor force participation: Employment, Unemployment

- High unemployment among Rohingya, close to four times that of hosts:
 - ✓ Regulations on employment, lack of work available, skill gaps
- Host unemployment has increased from 2019 levels, possibly due to sustained impacts of COVID-19 lockdowns

		Rohingya	Hosts	
Labor force participation rate*		38%	42%	
% of LFP	Employment	58%**	86%	
	Unemployment***	42%	14%***	

^{*} Consists of both the employed and the unemployed working age (>15 yrs) population

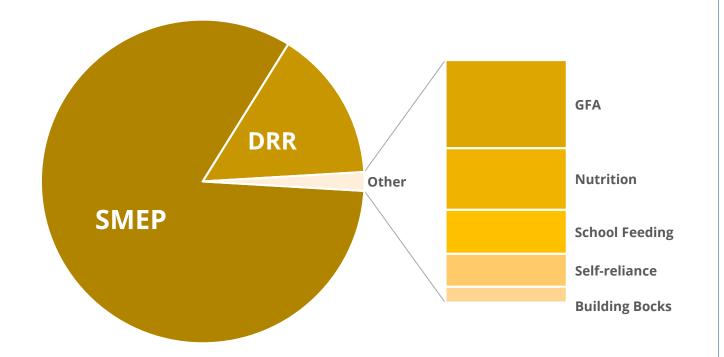
^{**}This amounts to 22% of the actual population

^{***}Unemployment in camps has increased by 6% and in hosts by 8% compared to 2019 rates. Source: Cox's Bazar Panel Survey (2019), World Bank



Employment in camps: Where are they working?





*Source: Program data.

Remaining 7% of population employment comes from self-employment: running small shops, petty trading, tailoring at home etc.

FGD findings indicate that employability is highly impacted by selection bias of intermediaries, local networks and prior employment.



Labor force indicators: Gender gaps

- Male labor force participation is 7 times higher than females
- Female unemployment rates within the labor force are also much higher than men
- Women in hosts are doing marginally better than those in camps, but labor force participation remains equally low

		Male	Female	Male	Female
Labor force participation		70%	10%	72%	13%
% of LFP	Employment	61%	41%	88%	76%
	Unemployment	39%	59%	12%	24%

Rohingya

Hosts



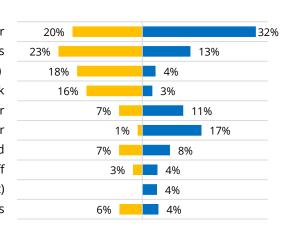
Labor force indicators: Gender roles in job selection

ROHINGYA

Female Male Non-agricultural daily/weekly laborer 16% 55% Self-run services (tailors, weavers etc.) 34% 2% Monthly salaried jobholders 22% 11% Small shop or business owner Camp volunteer/worker 10% Teacher/teaching staff Agricultural daily/weekly laborer 6% Petty trading/ 5%

HOST COMMUNITIES

Non-agricultural daily laborer
Monthly salaried jobholders
Self-run services (tailors, weavers etc.)
Homebased agricultural work
Agricultural daily laborer
Small shop or business owner
Farming in own field
Teacher/teaching staff
Fishing (own account)
Others



Female Male

WORKING WOMEN ARE MORE LIKELY TO ENGAGE IN SELF-RUN OR FORMAL EMPLOYMENT











Self-run, homebased agriculture and services

Teachers, NGO workers, health workers

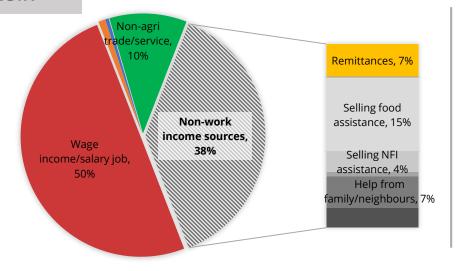
MALE EMPLOYMENT SKEWS TOWARDS UNSKILLED DAILY LABOR (both) AND PETTY TRADING (in hosts)





Income generating activities: Sources of income

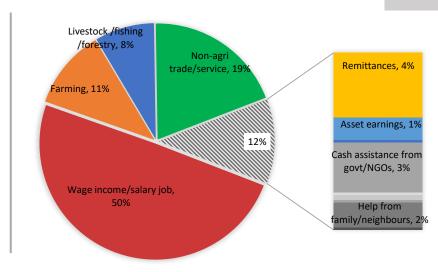
ROHINGYA



1 out of 3 income sources in camps are income generated through adoption of negative coping mechanisms .

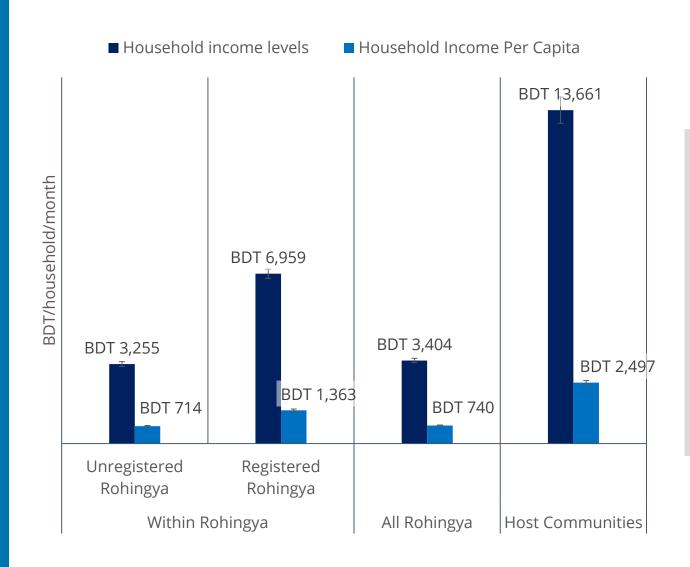
HOST COMMUNITIES

88% of host income sources are work-based, and balanced across wage-based jobs, farming, trading and services.





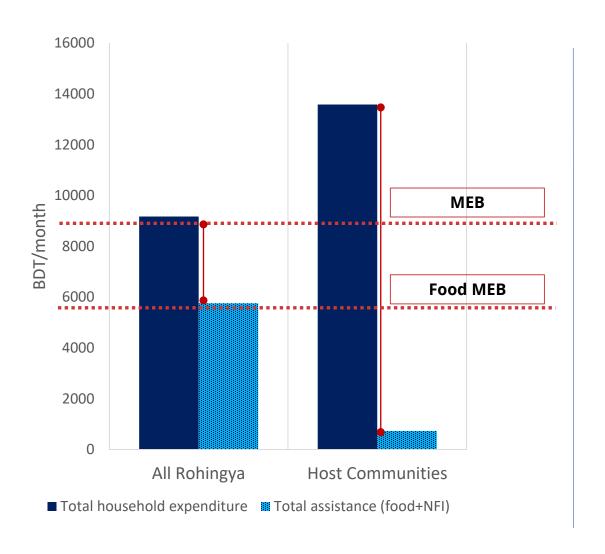
Household Income levels



- Household income levels for Rohingya are 75% lower than host communities, driven by unregistered Rohingya.
- Registered households earn twice as much as unregistered households on average.



What do these household incomes cover?

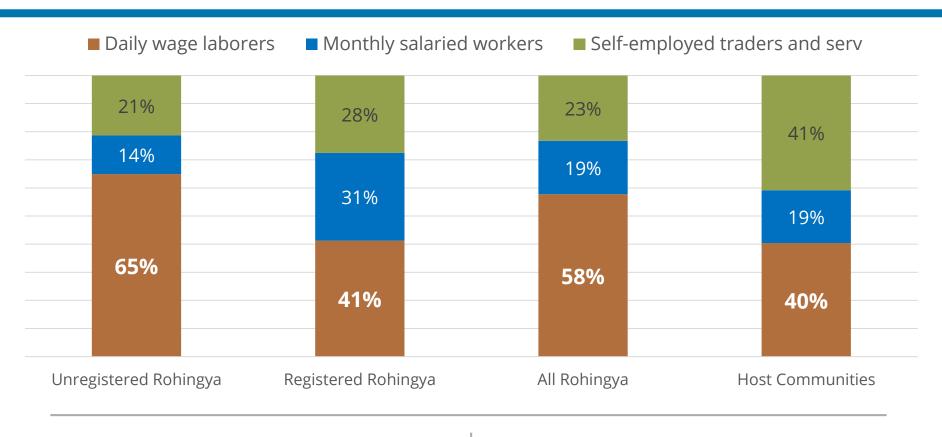


For the Rohingya, these incomes in addition to entitlement barely allow them to reach the MEB threshold

For hosts, household income levels understandably contribute to expenses beyond the MEB threshold.



Nature of IGAs: Population shares



65% of unregistered Rohingya work as unskilled day laborers, largely in construction, cleaning and as porters. Registered Rohingya demonstrate highest involvement in more stable, salaried jobs across all populations.



Nature of IGAs: Days worked, wage rates and earnings

	Rohingya			Host Communities		
	Days worked/ month	Daily rate	Monthly earnings	Days worked/ month	Daily rate	Monthly earnings
Daily Labor	9	350 BDT	2,770 BDT	19	450 BDT	8,610 BDT
Monthly Salaried Work	26	-	5,610 BDT	26	-	14,611 BDT
Self-Employed Traders and Service Workers	19	-	3,000 BDT	24	-	12,000

Monthly salaried jobs, in addition to being more stable, also generate highest earnings/month

Rohingya earn 75% less than hosts on a monthly basis on average- driven by wage rates, & days worked

Average days worked are a clear indicator of availability of work in the local economies



Earning levels and main IGAs: Gender dimensions

Monthly Income Levels (BDT)

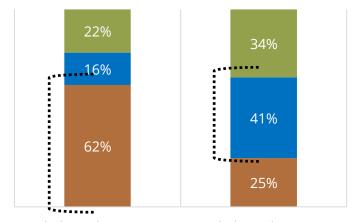
		Rohingya	Host Communities
Household head	Male	3560	14235
	Female	2831	10237
Breadwinner	Male	3683	14057
	Female	3862	10149

Female headed households have lower income levels in both Rohingya and hosts.

But households with female breadwinners in camps earn more in camps.

■ Daily wage laborers ■ Monthly salaried workers ■ Self-emp traders/service workers

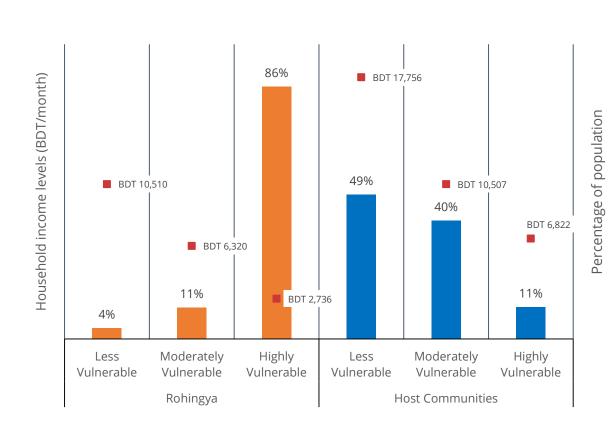
Female primary breadwinners in camps are also more likely to be engaged in stable IGAs i.e. monthly salaried work.



Male breadwinner HH Female breadwinner HH



HH Vulnerability and Income



Vulnerability significantly correlates with household income levels.

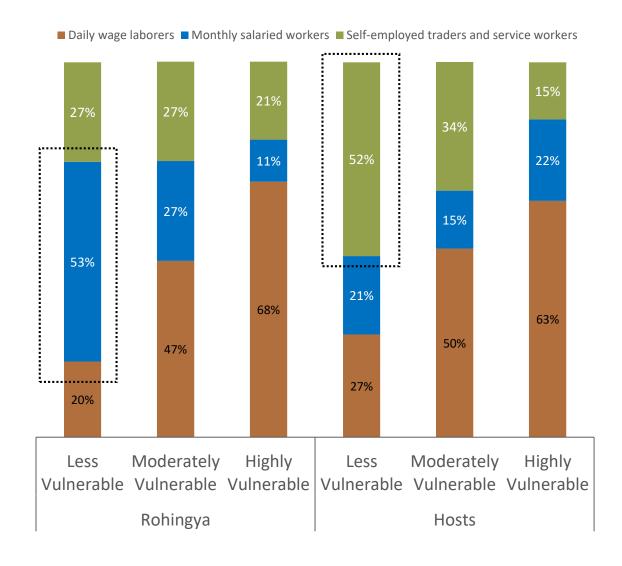
❖ 86% of Rohingya are highly vulnerable and have the lowest average household incomes.

Correlation is stronger in hosts than Rohingya, possibly due to direct dependence on incomes for meeting basic expenses.



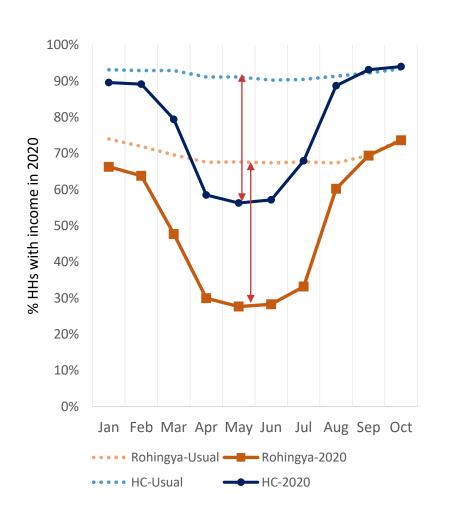
HH Vulnerability and Type of main IGA

- Vulnerability levels also correlate significantly with nature of the main IGA.
- Daily wage labor comprises the most vulnerable in both population
- Low vulnerability in Rohingya and host communities is largely associated with different IGA types





Impact of 2020 lockdowns: Contraction of local economy



Overall activity levels mask more severe impacts on unstable IGAs

Only 20% of day laborers in camps were able to continue working at the peak of the lockdowns

Even though activity levels show recovery, economic vulnerability has increased from previous years indicating sustained impacts.

Almost 1 in 3 host community households reported more than 25% drops from their 2019 income levels.



Sectoral impacts (activity level + income)

Impacts felt across multiple dimensions: fall in activity levels and pre-crisis income levels

Transport faced high impact due to steep activity losses, despite high pre-crisis incomes.

Construction laborers and cleaners faced high impacts both on reduction in activity levels and lowest pre-crisis income levels.

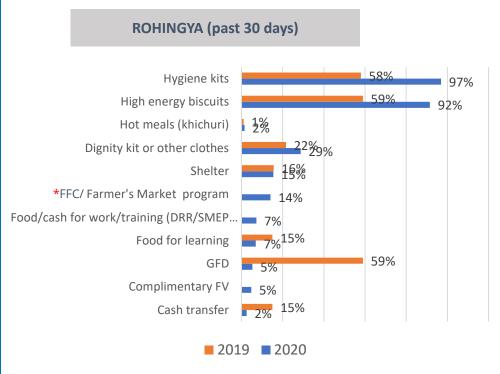
SECTOR	IMPACT LEVEL
Construction	High
Transportation	High
Sewage and waste management	High
Manufacturing	Medium
Human health and social services	Medium
Wholesale, retail trade	Medium
Agriculture, forestry, fishing	Medium
Accommodation and food services	Low
Education	Low
Administrative and support services	Low



ASSISTANCE



Assistance received



HOST COMMUNITIES (past 12 months) Other relief support from NGO/UN General relief/Covid-19 relief Vulnerable Group Development (VGD) Stipend for Female Students Open Markets Sales (OMS) Old Age allowance Vulnerable Group Feeding Gratuitous relief

- Increase in distribution of HEB, hygiene & dignity kits.
- Reduction in cash transfer activities (plausibly due to lockdowns)
- Increased relief support in 2020

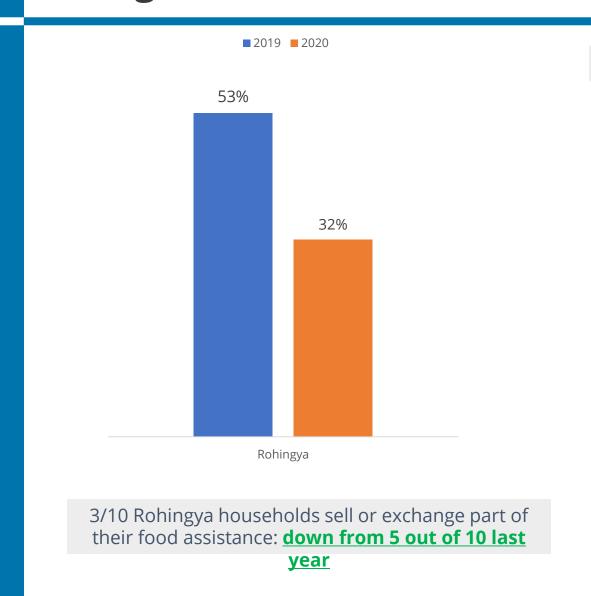
2019 2020

Increase in VGD beneficiaries

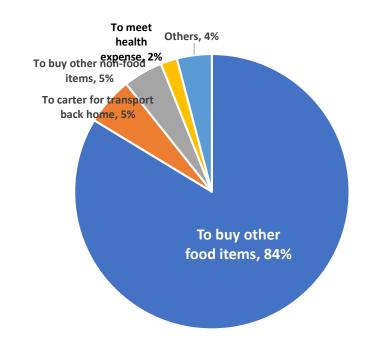
^{*}Share of FFC/FM beneficiaries come from camps where fresh food corners were re-activated in late November to early December during the data collection.



Selling of assistance: Scale and reasons



WHY ARE THEY SELLING?



Decrease in sales have potentially been driven by the scale down of GFD and scale up of e-voucher, aided by increased sensitization on better diet diversity to check selling.



Selling of assistance: Scale and items sold

What is being sold (%HH)?

OIL 25%



20%



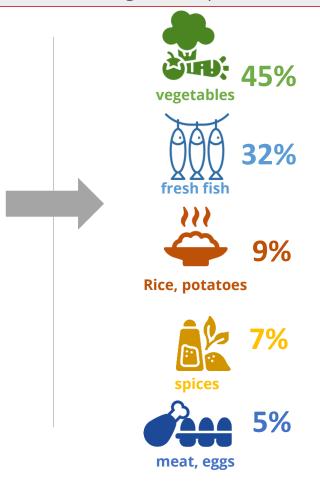




7%

- Drive towards oil sell continues. Commodity-voucher beneficiaries sold mainly oil, rice, dried fish and pulses
- Unregistered Rohingya sell less proportion of dried fish compared to registered Rohingya

What is purchased*: ingredients for supporting dishes – vegetables, proteins and condiments.





Selling of assistance: Proportions being sold and why

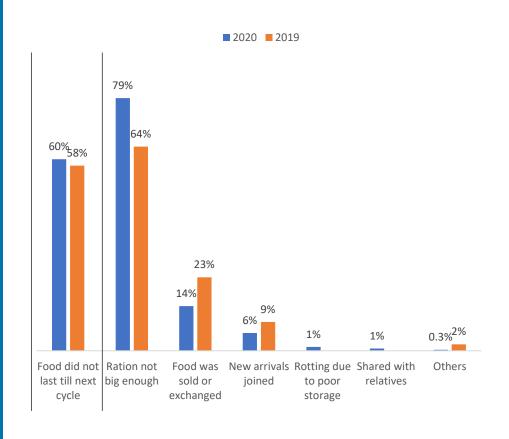
Sold Items	Proportions Sold	Rohingya selling Price per KG (black market)	Observed Market Price (November)	Loss in Value of Commodity
Rice	14%	35	53	-34%
Pulse (YSP)	52%	29	35	-17%
Oil	34%	78	110	-29%
Sugar	53%	47	63	-25%
Egg (per piece)	30%	8	9	-11%
Potato	32%	22	44	-50%
Dried Fish	60%	344	500	-31%

- All these items were sold to buy fresh vegetables.
- Selling of oil is driven by the higher bandwidth it provides that enables the Rohingya to buy fresh fish majorly and seldom meats.

Selling higher proportion of YSP and Dried Fish (loitta) were reportedly due to very low preference for given varieties.



Duration of Ration Lasting



- Approx. 6/10 Rohingya households indicate that rations didn't last till the next distribution cycle **avg. 27 days**
- Size of ration reported as the overwhelming major reason why ration doesn't last
- Which households are prone to selling?
 - With persons with difficulties
 - With higher number of children of age 5-14 years
 - With chronically ill member
 - With none or few actively working male member
 - With monthly income per capita less than 500 BDT



Preferred modality of assistance



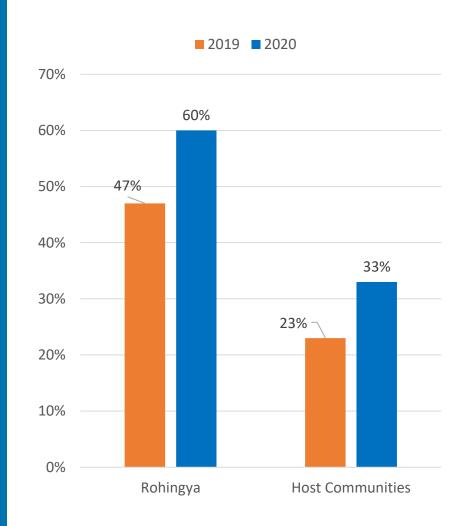
- ❖ 95% of households either preferred the EV or EV + cash modalities.
- Vulnerable households lacking access to income opportunities or with low income levels were more likely to ask for the hybrid modality
 - Household with low or no income
 - Female headed households
 - Households with no actively working members
 - Household not benefitting from any food/cash for work programs (last 30 days)



MULTI-DIMENSIONAL DEPRIVATION



Deprivation levels

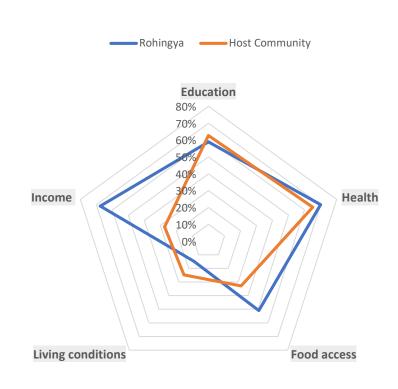


60% of **Rohingya** households are multidimensionally poor, a **13% increase from 2019**.

33% of **host** households were found to be multi-dimensionally poor, a **10% increase from 2019.**



Deprivation across dimensions



Pre-existing deprivations across both populations have heightened in similar patterns:

Income: Continues to be a source of concern, increasingly so due to sustained impacts of the 2020 lockdowns

Health and Education: Potential temporary increase owing to current school closures, and strain on health facilities (COVID-19 effect)

Food access: Possibly led by strains on income (for both) and shift to commodity voucher (for Rohingya)

6.1



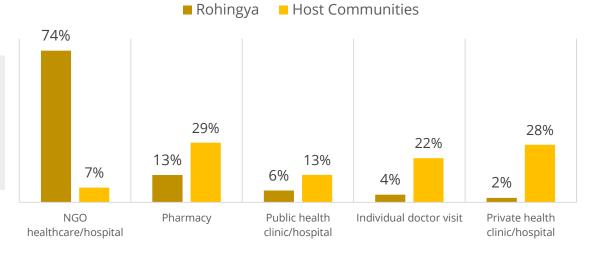
HEALTH AND WASH



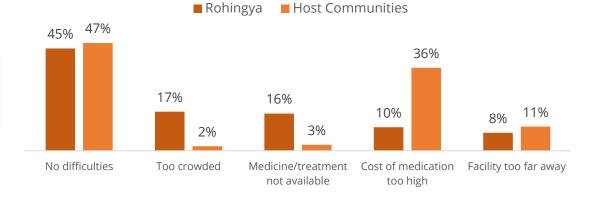
Access to Healthcare: Patterns and Quality

Hosts and Rohingya reported the similar patterns of incidence of sickness and health access.

High tendency observed in **hosts** in seeking medical attention at pharmacies; public and humanitarian health facilities least prominent.

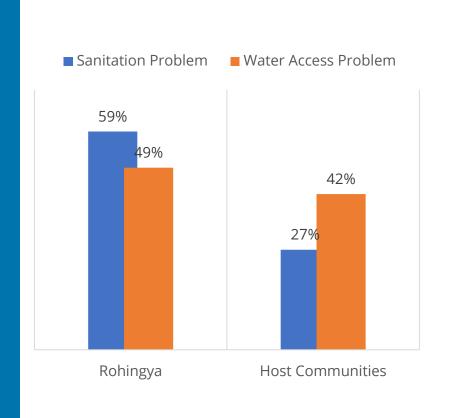


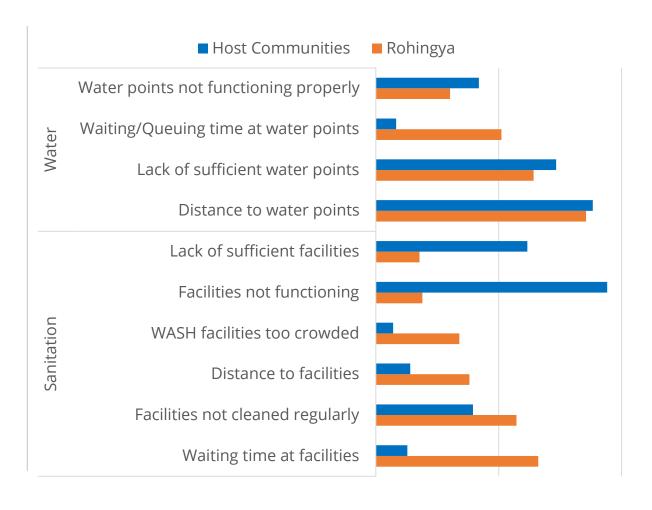
Half of those who sought medical attention faced difficulties





Water and Sanitation: Problems faced





6.2



EDUCATION

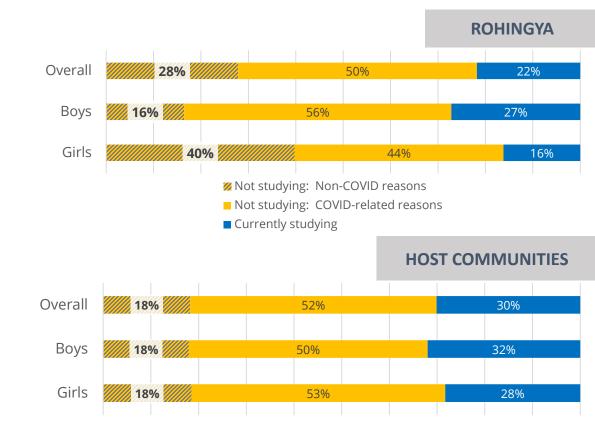


Education Continuity and Gender Gaps

70% of school-aged children in hosts and 78% among Rohingya reported not studying at the time of the survey.

Large gender gaps in Rohingya: 40% of school-age girls are currently not studying due to non-COVID reasons, 2.5 times higher than boys.

No evident gender gaps among hosts in education of boys and girls.



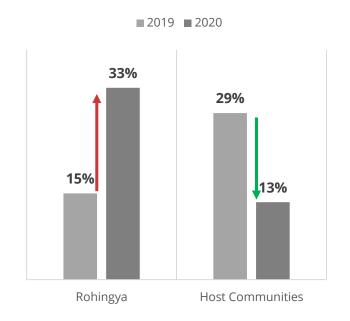


PROTECTION AND GENDER



Protection: Insecurities faced

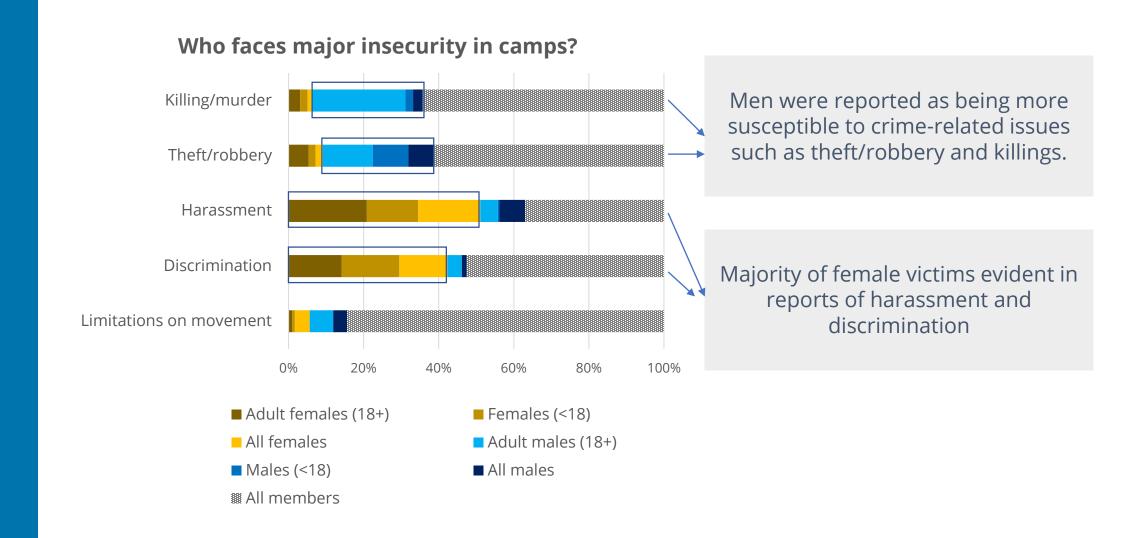
Protection concerns reported by hosts have halved (29% to 13%) but doubled for Rohingya (15% to 33%).



	Rohingya
	% change in reports (2019-2020)
Discrimination	+9%
Killing/murder	+9%
Theft/robbery	+8%
Physical violence/abuse	+7%
Harassment	+7%
Limitations on movement	+6%
House, land property destruction	+5%
Abduction	+4%
Being approached by drug traffickers	+1%
Sexual violence/abuse	0%
Being approached by human smugglers	-1%



Protection: Gender dimensions

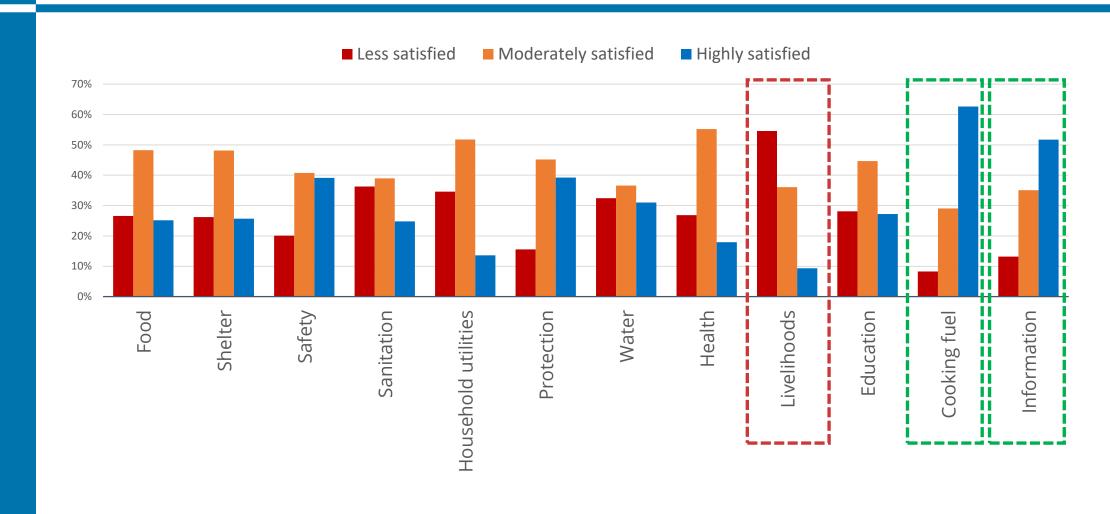




SATISFACTION LEVELS AND PERCEIVED NEEDS



Satisfaction with Services: Rohingya



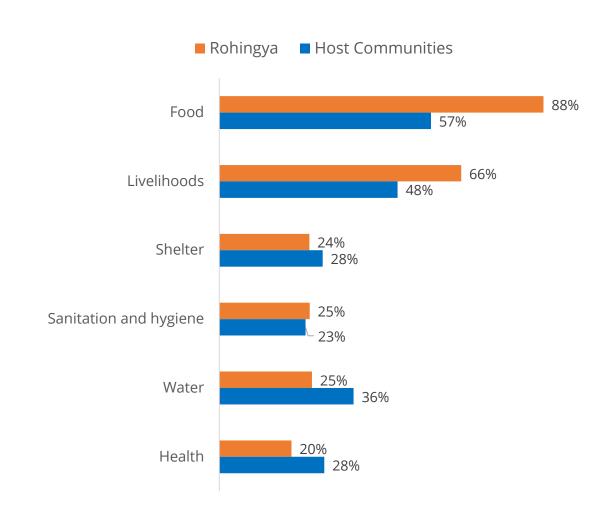


Reported Priority Needs

Food is the most cited priority need in both hosts and Rohingya.

Livelihoods 20% more frequently reported by Rohingya than hosts, indicating persistent lack of work available in camps.

Basic needs (water, health, cooking fuel) reported more frequently by hosts than Rohingya.



PRELIMINARY CONCLUSIONS

In summary & looking ahead (1)

- Food consumption outcomes show relative decline compared to 2019:
 - ✓ Rohingya: less preference on some items affected consumption & rations not lasting full cycle Expand access to more fresh foods (FM & FFCs) & more consideration to beneficiaries' preference

More efforts on awareness on good food utilization practices

- ✓ Host: impacted by reduction in income due to economic contractions
- Vulnerability levels remain high in the Rohingya camps
 - ✓ Fragile economy sustained fully by aid
 - ✓ No evidence of building up wealth/asset accumulation; all complimentary assistance (self-reliance, DRR, SMEP, Livelihoods etc.) meant to support consumption

Universal food assistance continuance

Targeted complimentary assistance (for most vulnerable/at risk)

- Local Economy
 - √ ~ 42% of Rohingya labor force is unemployed
 - ✓ Majority of work in camps are unstable- camp economy highly susceptible to market shocks
 - ✓ In camps: 1/3 of income sources coming from negative coping strategies
 - ✓ Rohingya households' monthly income almost 75% lower than host households

Need for more broad-based livelihood/self-reliance solutions (resilience lens) with better targeting strategies in the camp/host community (for host: to spur economic growth again following pandemic)

In summary & looking ahead (2)

Coping

- ✓ Crisis coping mechanisms order of the day in Rohingya camps: ~ 6 out of 10 households involved in this.
- ✓ Responses on how to cope with an emergency expense indicates a cornered and resource-less population: 1 out of 3 have no ways to cover an emergency expense; these households primed to turn to extreme coping when pushed.

Assistance

- ✓ Fresh food corner beneficiaries exhibit better food consumption outcome in terms of consuming micronutrients
- ✓ Positive outcomes on efforts to curb assistance sell, but more still need to be done ~ selling is an act of desperation and not self sufficiency
- ✓ Less preferred foods sold the most (as opposed to earlier when rice was main commodity sold)
- √ ~ 20 50% loss in value of commodities sold (thriving syndicate economy)
- ✓ Majority prefer hybrid assistance = cash + e-vouchers (feasibility?)

More sensitization needed on optimal use of assistance provided

THANK YOU

